

NEPAL

NEPAL NATIONAL LIBRARY

DASHARATH THAPA – CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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The number of libraries is increasing slowly, however in the absence of law and regulation there is not much effective service that could have been provided by these libraries. The librarians in Nepal felt the need of legal provision about library services and they formed a policy draft committee which was approved by the Ministry of Education and Sports. The committee prepared the draft on the **National Policy on Library and Information Service** which was handed over to the Minister for Education and Sports on 4 January 2007 for further process.

Upon the request of World Vision International Nepal, which has been working in rural areas to uplift the life of people including the education sector, Nepal National Library organised a four day long Basic Library Management training course from 21-24 February 2007 for librarians from different rural areas of the Lalitpur district. Similarly the Kathmandu Valley Public Library Society and Nepal National conducted Level-3 training for the 25 trainees in the year 2006.

Tribhuvan University Library Science Students' Alumni Association (TULSSAA) held its annual general assembly and organised a talk programme on the existing situation of libraries outside Kathmandu Valley which was held in Nawalparasi out of Kathmandu Valley during 6-8 April 2007. The Alumni is conducting training for paraprofessional librarians every year for 20-25 such manpower in the country.

Nepal Library Association held its annual general assembly on 26 February and a 12 member new executive committee was elected for a period of two years. The library associations in the South Asian region formed an association named Regional Federation for South Asian Library Association (REFSALA). The present president is the President of Nepal Library Association.

The landmark in the public library sector this year is providing a small amount of budget as a grant by the government for the small community libraries throughout the country.

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